

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A communications system comprising:
 - 2 a first communication device for a first user having:
 - 3 means for communicating through a network;
 - 4 means for transmitting and receiving electromagnetic waves for
 - 5 communicating with a second user having a second communication device;
 - 6 a processor in electronic communication with the communicating means and
 - 7 the transmitting and receiving means;
 - 8 storage means in communication with the processor;
 - 9 and
 - 10 input and output means in electronic communication with the processor for
 - 11 receiving and displaying information to and from a first user;
 - 12 a provider system having:
 - 13 means for recognizing the first user initiating a communication through the
 - 14 network; and
 - 15 means for sending a targeted communication based upon a predetermined
 - 16 criterion based upon a set of stored data on the first user and for inserting the communication
 - 17 into the storage means; and
 - 18 software means resident within the processor having means for, upon a
 - 19 communication being established by the first user with a second user, relaying the targeted

20 communication to the second user via one of the transmitting and receiving means and the
21 communicating means.

1 2. The communication system recited in Claim 1, wherein the first communication
2 device comprises a portable unit.

1 3. The communication system recited in Claim 1, wherein the first communication
2 device comprises a housing comprising a base and a screen sector connected thereto, wherein the
output means comprises the screen sector.

4. The communication system recited in Claim 1, wherein the communicating means
comprises a modem.

5. The communication system recited in Claim 1, wherein the transmitting and receiving
means comprises a radio-frequency antenna.

1 6. The communication system recited in Claim 1, wherein the input means comprises
2 a keyboard.

1 7. The communication system recited in Claim 1, wherein the targeted communication
2 comprises an advertisement.

1 **8.** The communication system recited in Claim 1, wherein the predetermined criterion
2 is selected from at least one of a plurality of demographic data.

1 **9.** The communication system recited in Claim 1, wherein:
2 the targeted communication comprises an expiration date;
3 the software means further has means for determining a current date and means for
4 blocking a relaying of the targeted communication if the current date is past the expiration date.

1 **10.** The communication system recited in Claim 1, wherein the provider system further
comprises means for determining an activity undertaken by the first user and for offering a reward
to the first user if the activity is one of a predetermined set of reward-earning activities.

1 **11.** The communication system recited in Claim 10, wherein the set of reward-earning
activities comprises usage time, accessing a particular site via the network, sharing information with
3 the second user, and making a purchase from a selected vendor.

1 **12.** The communication system recited in Claim 10, wherein the reward comprises at least
2 one of a discount and a product.

1 **13.** The communication system recited in Claim 10, wherein the set of stored data
2 comprises an account containing data on accumulated reward status of the first user.

1 **14.** A communications method comprising the steps of:
2 permitting a first user to communicate using a first communication device through
3 a network with a site for receiving a communication from a second user;
4 recognizing the first user;
5 accessing a database containing information on the first user;
6 sending via the network a targeted message to the first user;
7 storing the targeted message on the first communication device;
8 permitting the first user to communicate with a second communication device of a
9 second user using the first communication device; and
10 automatically relaying the targeted message from the first communication device to
11 the second communication device.

1 **15.** A portable communication device comprising:
2 a housing having a first, a second, a third, and a fourth opening into an interior space;
3 input means positioned within the housing and accessible through the first opening;
4 output means positioned within the housing and accessible through the second
5 opening;
6 antenna means extending through the third opening;

7 interface means extending through the fourth opening for communicating with a
8 network;

9 storage means within the housing;
10 a processor positioned within the housing and in electronic communication with the
11 input, output, antenna, storage, and interface means; and

12 software means resident within the processor having means for receiving via the
13 interface means a targeted communication from a provider system and for relaying the targeted
14 communication to another member of the provider system matching a set of predetermined criteria
15 via the antenna means.